

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 6, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 25 as follows:

As another heat treatment method, the cooled sheet-like article may be introduced in a medium having an ambient temperature of 100 to 220°C to be heat-treated. In such case, the ambient temperature is preferably 130 to 200°C. The medium may be a gas inactive with the polypropylene, such as air and nitrogen, and the air is typically used. As another method, one side of the ~~sheet-like articles~~sheet-like composition is heat-treated with the endless belt and/or the ~~roller~~belt and the other side thereof is heat-treated by applying the medium (e.g., the air) having the ambient temperature of 100 to 220°C.

On page 7, please amend the equation that begins on line 14 as follows:

~~(Equation 2)~~
$$H \leq 70t^2 - 30t + 6 \quad \dots(I)$$

On page 8, please amend the equation that begins on line 9 as follows:

~~(Equation 3)~~
$$H \leq 70t^2 - 30t + 5.2 \quad \dots(II)$$

On page 11, please amend the paragraph the begins on line 23 as follows:

The melt flow rate (MFR) of the metallocene-type ethylene- α -olefin copolymer (b) is 1 to 30 g/10 min. When the MFR is below the above-described range, flow defect might occur in molding the ~~laminar~~ sheet, which causes variation in thickness of the sheet. On the other hand, when the MFR exceeds the above-described range, the viscosity becomes low and drawdown likely occurs in molding the sheet, thereby causing insufficient molding stability.

On page 13, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 20 as follows:

A manufacturing method of the polypropylene based sheet of the present invention includes: a melt-extrusion step for melt-extruding a resin composition formed from the above-described specific polypropylene resin (a) and metallocene-type ethylene- α -olefin copolymer (b) into a ~~sheet-like shapes~~sheet-like article; a cooling step for quenching the melt-extruded sheet-like

resin composition; and a heat treatment step for heat-treating a cooled sheet-like article at a heat treatment temperature of 100 to 220°C.

On page 14, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 11 as follows:

In the method using the endless belt and the cooling roller in combination, the melt-extruded sheet-like resin composition is introduced in between the endless belt wound around a first cooling roller and a second cooling roller and a third cooling roller disposed outside the endless belt so as to pass through therebetween in a manner contacting with surfaces of the endless belt and the third roller, where the introduced sheet-like resin composition is pressed and quenched by the first cooling roller and the third cooling roller via the endless belt. In such case, by mirror-finishing at least one of the surface of the third cooling roller and the surface of the endless belt which contact with the sheet-like resin composition~~sheet-like composition~~, the polypropylene based sheet with excellent surface gloss, transparency and removed distortion can be manufactured effectively.

On page 15, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 2 as follows:

As for temperature condition of the heat treatment, in an arrangement using a heat treatment device that contacts with the sheet-like resin composition~~sheet-like composition~~ such as an endless belt, a roller and a platy heater, a surface contacting the sheet-like resin composition~~sheet-like composition~~ in the heat treatment device is in the range from 100 to 220°C, preferably in the range from 100°C to the melting point of the polypropylene resin (a) contained in the resin composition.

On page 16 please amend the paragraph that begins on line 7 as follows:

The manufacturing machine 1 includes: an extruding unit 11 for melting and kneading a resin composition as a raw material and extruding the resin composition into a sheet-like resin composition 20a; a first cooling unit 12 for cooling and solidifying the extruded sheet-like resin composition 20a; a preheating unit 13 for reheating a sheet-like article (sheet 20) as the cooled sheet-like resin composition; a heat treatment unit 14 for heat-treating the sheet 20 to obtain a sheet 21; and a second cooling unit 15 for cooling the heat-treated sheet ~~21~~20.

On page 16, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 15 as follows:

The extruding unit 11 includes: an existing extruder 111 such as a single screw extruder and a multi-screw extruder; and a T-die 112 for sheet molding that is provided to a tip end of the extruder 111. With the arrangement, the melted and kneaded resin composition~~sheet-like resin composition 20a~~ containing 70 to 99.8 mass% of the polypropylene resin (a) and 30 to 0.02 mass% of the metallocene-type ethylene- α -olefin copolymer (b) is extruded into a sheet-like shape by the T-die 112.

On page 17, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 16 as follows:

The width of an inlet of the slit 126 is in the range from 1 to 20 mm, preferably 3 to 10 mm. The width of an outlet of the slit 126 is at least larger than the thickness of the sheet-like resin composition 20a and 0.5 mm or larger, preferably 1.0 mm or larger. Incidentally, the slit 126 is typically formed like a wall having a thickness of about 1 to 10 mm and a length of about 30 to 70 mm. A distance between the slit 126 and the T-die 112 is typically about 30 to 250 mm.

On page 23, please amend the equation that begins on line 27 as follows:

(Equation 4)
$$H \leq 70t^2 - 30t + 6 \quad \dots(I)$$

On page 25, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 24 as follows:

On the other hand, in a manufacturing machine 2 of the transparent polypropylene based sheet of the second embodiment as shown in Fig. 4, a first cooling unit 22 includes: a metallic endless belt 215 wound around a first cooling roller 213 and a second cooling roller 214; a third cooling roller 216 that presses the melt-extruded sheet-like resin composition 20a against the first cooling roller 213 via the metallic endless belt 215; and a fourth cooling roller 217 that is disposed in the vicinity of the second cooling roller ~~214~~214.

On page 28, please amend the paragraph that begins on line 26 as follows:

The melt-extruded sheet-like resin composition 20a is planarly pressed and cooled by the first and third rollers 213, 216 in the angle $\theta 1$ portion of the rollers 213, 216 where the elastic member 218 is elastically deformed, the sheet-like resin composition 20a is planarly pressed and cooled by the metallic endless belt 215 and the third cooling roller 216 in the winding angle $\theta 2$

portion, and the ~~sheet-like resin composition~~ 20 is planarly pressed and cooled by the endless belt 215 and the second cooling roller 214 in the angle $\theta 3$ portion, by which the transparent polypropylene based sheet 21 having excellent transparency can be manufactured at high speed.

On page 30 please amend line 19 as follows:

Grade: F-534N~~4~~ (manufactured by Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.)

On page 31, please amend line 10 as follows:

Grade: V0398CN~~V398CN~~ (manufactured by Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.)